

PATENT

Docket No: 4439-4024
Serial No.: 10/507,446

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Hidetsugu Goto et al. **Group Art Unit:** 1645

Serial No. : 10/507,446 **Confirmation No.:** 8215

Filed : September 13, 2004 **Examiner:** Brian J. Gangle

For : GENE PARTICIPATING IN ACETIC ACID TOLERANCE, ACETIC ACID BACTERIA BRED USING THE GENE, AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING VINEGAR WITH THE USE OF THE ACETIC ACID BACTERIA

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated July 18, 2006, in which pending claims 1-10 were subjected to restriction, the applicants provisionally elect to prosecute **Group II** (*i.e.*, **claims 2, 3, and 10**) as identified by the Examiner. As is set forth in detail below, this election is made with traverse.

Applicants have petitioned for a one (1) month extension of time and paid concurrently herewith the appropriate fee for extending the period of response up to and including September 18, 2006.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.